

The slide features a blue horizontal bar at the top. The background is light gray with faint, large-scale text reading "MICHIGAN SERVICE COMMISSION" and a circular "AMERICORPS MICHIGAN" seal. A stylized graphic of a person with arms raised is also visible. The main title is centered in a large, bold, dark blue font.

# **Michigan's AmeriCorps Outreach Information Program Year 2004-2005**

# Content

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- Overview of AmeriCorps
- Available Funding
- Application Process
- Questions

# The National Level

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- Nationally, AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).
- Established in 1993, the CNCS engages more than a million American's each year in service to their communities, providing a way to solve community problems.
- The CNCS has three major service components: AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America and the National Senior Service Corps.
- Currently, 50,000 AmeriCorps members serve nationwide.

# The State Level

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M I C H I G A N



**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE**

C O M M I S S I O N

- The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) is the administrative agent for Michigan's AmeriCorps.
- Our mission is to fund and support programs that encourage all Michigan residents to volunteer.
- This mission is fulfilled through numerous programs, projects and activities focused on service & volunteerism.

# Michigan's AmeriCorps Facts

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- Currently 13 programs in Michigan
- Over 300 members will serve this year
- Members serve on a full-time (1700 hours), half-time (900 hours), reduced half-time (675 hours), quarter-time (450 hours) or minimum time/summer-only (300 hours) basis.
- Each program funded must have the equivalent of 10 full-time members (referred to as FTE's).

# What is AmeriCorps?

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- National Service Program (Domestic Peace Corps)
- Programs focus on community needs in one of five areas: Education, Environment, Public Safety, Homeland Security, or Human Needs
- Members serve in programs and provide direct service to address community need.
- Program goals include:
  - Needs and Service Activities
  - Strengthening Communities
  - Participant Development
  - Capacity Building

# What to expect...

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## **AmeriCorps is....**

- People power
- A team of members addressing a compelling need
- A way to leverage local & federal resources

## **AmeriCorps is not...**

- A staffing program
- A one person team
- Cheap labor
- A way to fund your organization
- A grant for supplies or materials for your organization

# Funds Available for 2004

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- Availability of funding has not yet been determined
- Expecting to fund 2-3 new programs
- Selected programs will begin Fall 2004



# Funding Priorities

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- It has been determined that priority will be given to the following program focus areas:
  - Mentoring
  - Early childhood education/development
  - Services to schools not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under 'No Child Left Behind' legislation
  - Homeland security focus
- Further information on these funding priority areas can be found on page 4 of the Michigan's AmeriCorps Concept Paper Guidelines.

# Homeland Security

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- The Corporation defines 'homeland security' as appropriately engaging citizens and communities in preparedness and response to acts of terrorism and other disasters. Applications for programs that prepare to minimize the damage and recovery from any emergency, natural or man-made, will receive preference in the 2004-2005 program year.

# Program and Grant Size

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- Programs must request a minimum of 10 FTE (full-time equivalent).
- Target average cost per FTE should not exceed \$12,800. This amount may decrease based on federal guidance.
- Grant size is determined by size of the program.
- If program is funded with formula funds, then programs will be asked to revise their budgets so that they do not exceed 20% of Michigan's formula allotment.

# Eligible Applicants

- Educational institutions
- Government/State Entities
- Non-profit organizations with a 501(c)3 status
- Must be in existence for at least 3 years.





# Match Requirements

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- Program Operational Costs require at least a 33% cash or in-kind match.
- Member Support costs require at least 15% non-federal cash match.
- First three years of funding:
  - Member Support 85/15% (MCSC/Grantee)
  - Program Operation 67/33% (MCSC/Grantee)

# Michigan's AmeriCorps Needs and Service Activities

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Project activities must provide specific measurable service outcomes that otherwise would not be provided with existing funds or volunteers, and that do not duplicate the functions of existing workers, or displace paid employees.

*An example of possible activities can be found on pages 6 – 11 in the 2004-2005 guidelines.*

# Prohibited Activities

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There are several activities that are prohibited for members during AmeriCorps time.

These include:

- Lobbying, religious instruction and advocacy
- A Full list can be found on page 17 in the 2004-2005 guidelines

# Member Eligibility, Recruitment & Selection

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- Members are recruited, selected and trained by each individual program.
- Members serve on a full(1,700 hours within a 9 to 12 month period), half (900 hours), reduced-half (675 hours), quarter (450 hours) or minimum time/summer-only basis (300 hours). Members must serve in a time not to exceed one year.
- Must be at least 17, possess high school diploma (or agree to work towards it) or equivalent and be a U.S. Citizen or legal resident alien.
- Members can serve additional terms, but will only receive 2 education awards.
- Meet any additional qualifications as determined by the program.



# Member Benefits



## ■ Living Stipend

- Full-Time (min./max.)  
\$10,197-\$20,394
- Other member living stipends are to be prorated based on full-time equation.
- Federal funds can not exceed 85% of the minimum living allowance, which equals \$8,667 per member
- Health Care (FT Only)
- Child Care (FT Only)
- Training

# Educational Award Levels

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- \$4,725 for full-time [1,700 hours]
- \$2,362 for part-time [900 hours]
- \$1,800 for reduced half-time [675 hours]
- \$1,250 for quarter-time [450 hours]
- \$1,000 for minimum time/summer only [300 hours]

# Member Development Responsibilities

## **Citizenship:**

Develop lifelong ethic of service.

## **Training:**

Supervision & Training must be provided.

## **Required Hours:**

Members must devote 80% of hours to direct service, 20% to training.

## **Opportunities:**

Provide Leadership opportunities for members and encourage personal growth.

# Strengthening Communities

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- Programs strengthen communities by:
  - Mobilizing Community Assets
  - Generating Volunteers
  - Involving the Community
  - Engaging diverse staff and AmeriCorps members

# Program Requirements

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- For the 2004-2005 program year, all AmeriCorps programs will be required to:
  - Generate volunteers
  - Provide citizenship training
  - Measure and account for impact
  - Partner with faith-based and small community-based organizations

# Other Program Requirements & Responsibilities

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## Program Provides:

- Member Contract
- Grievance Procedure
- Evaluation/ Outcome measurement
- Identification (Site and Member)

## Programs also:

- Supervise sites
- Report programmatically and financially
- Attend monthly director meetings
- Participate in statewide events

# Tentative Submission Instructions

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- Intents to Apply due **by 5 p.m. December 15, 2003.**
- Concept papers due no later **than 5 p.m. January 15, 2004**  
(no faxes accepted)
- Program Narrative not to exceed 15 double-spaced pages
  - Program Design (60%)
    - Needs and Service Activity (20%)
    - Member Development (20%)
    - Strengthening Communities (20%)
  - Organizational Capacity (25%)
  - Cost Effectiveness & Sustainability (15%)

# Submission Package

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- Title Page
- Program Narrative
- Budget Form & Budget Narrative
- Financial Audit
- Submission Checklist



# Selection Process

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January 26, 2004: Peer review of concept papers

February 2, 2004: Staff review of concept papers

February 4, 2004: Applicants are notified of progress to next stage

February 11, 2004: Required meeting for continuing applicants

March 4, 2004: New Comprehensive Applications due

February 20, 2004: Revised applications are due to the MCSC – final approval given for submission

July 9- September 30, 2004: Planning Grant period.

*\*Dates are subject to change based on final guidance from CNCS.*

Any Questions? Contact  
Andrew Younger at the  
MCSC – (517)335-7952.



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SERVICE**

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